

Last year there were approx 7,000 small ISP's
This year there are only about 5,000 small ISP's

Our own experience is that the local ILEC in order to provide DSL service demanded that we buy an ATM circuit from them even though we had circuits already in great capacity from other companies. The ILEC was of course still getting their local loop fees just not our data fees too.

This meant that we could not also afford to directly offer DSL service. They priced us out with the ATM demand.

Our advantage in service is that we are not a large lumbering ILEC and provide a variety of business services and integration that the ILEC installers won't do. This leaves the customer stranded by the ILEC unless they have luck on their side.

As an alternative we worked with the SprintION solution products but Bell and Verizon managed to kill that off. We had a location that had redundant connections and it was funny that the ILEC circuits were always fine but the competing Sprint circuits went down on a Thursday or Friday about every three weeks. When we went over to the local CO to discuss just what we observed to find out what was the root cause and complained that we knew the cause was at the CO because unlike many customers we actually had dual services from the same CO. Seems like the problem stopped after that visit to the VERY RUDE staff in the CO.

Please do not strangle us further by locking us out of CO facilities needed to keep our businesses alive. The pricing is bad enough to work around, don't kill us!

To this day we are forced to pair with others instead of guiding our own digital path for DSL broadband service in particular.

Imposing fees on ISP's could wipe us all out in 90 days!

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